

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 11-26 and 29-37. By this paper, Applicants have amended claims 1, 18, 20, 24, and 35 for clarification of certain features and to expedite prosecution of the present application. These amendments do not add any new matter. Upon entry of these amendments, claims 1-8, 11-26 and 29-37 remain pending in the present application and are believed to be in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants graciously acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Applicants have attempted to contact the Examiner and his supervisor unsuccessfully to discuss a path forward for expediting prosecution of the present application. The present amendments are made in an effort to place the present application in condition for allowance. If the Examiner maintains one or more of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 (discussed below), the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney or his designee, F. Clay Faries, at the telephone number indicated below.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 11-26, and 29-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 1

In formulating the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, the Examiner pointed to the subject matter "identifying a logical block of the screen display affected by the input event" recited in claim 1. The Examiner asserted it "is unclear where this functionality occurs, and how it is executed to perform the claimed method, but stated that

“identification of a logical block of a screen display based on input events will be presumed [by the Examiner] to occur at the controlled computer.” *See*, Office Action, page 3.

Indeed, as explained by the present specification, “selected logical blocks of a graphical user interface screen are identified and designated by *a controlled computer*.” *See*, Specification, page 4 (emphasis added). In one example, a UNIX server resides at the controlled computer to facilitate this identification and other functionalities. *See*, Specification, page 8. In certain embodiments, a screen capture of the controlled-computer display is first taken via the UNIX server prior to the input event. *See, e.g.*, Specification, pages 8-9. Next, a screen capture is taken of the controlled-computer display after occurrence of the input event. Then, typical image analysis algorithms or other techniques known in the art may be used to determine the change in screen data (i.e., the logical block) of the controlled computer, such data (e.g., coordinates, bitmaps, etc.) being transmitted to the controlling computer for update of the display at the controlling computer. *See, e.g., id.*, pages 8-10. The screen data may be compressed prior to its transfer.

In operation, “[i]nputs made by the operator on the controlling computer system . . . are transmitted *to the controlled computer system where they are interpreted and implemented in accordance with the application*.” *See, id.*, page 8 (emphasis added). The “screen displayed on the controlled computer system will typically be generated by one or more applications run by that computer system.” *See, id.*, page 8. “Where the input results in a change in the screen displayed on the controlled computer system, information regarding the change, including data for display on both systems, is transmitted back to the controlling computer system to appropriately change its display.” *See, id.*, page 8. As indicated, initially the control logic may begin with a screen capture of the display at the controlled computer prior to the input event.

In disclosed embodiments, the

screen is simply captured at the controlled computer system and data defining the screen is transmitted to the controlling computer system via the network. At this point, both computer systems display similar screens, and the operator at the controlling computer system may manipulate the location of a cursor . . . or may enter any desired input based upon this cursor position or any other allowed parameter of the input devices.

Id., page 8.

Upon occurrence of an input event, such as a mouse click at a desired cursor position, or depressing one or more keys on a keyboard, an input event is logged. As will be appreciated by those skilled in the art, such input events are encoded in accordance with the particular input devices employed. Signals resulting from encoding of the input event are transmitted from the controlling computer system to the controlled computer system via the network. *Id.*, page 8. The “input event is interpreted *at the controlled computer system.*” *See, id.* (emphasis added).

The present specification concludes:

In general, such interpretation will be based not only on the nature and type of input even, but upon the location of [the indicia of the input device] on the controlling computer system at the time of the input event, or similar data, and upon the meaning of that event in the applications running on the controlled computer system. In other words, the input event originating in the controlling computer system is interpreted *by the controlled computer system* as if the input event had occurred at the controlled computer system. Such interpretation will result in definition of one or more designated portions of the display present on the controlled computer system monitor. Such portions may include graphical input devices, such as virtual buttons, windows, screen frames, display areas, specific images, specific text, and so forth. The corresponding portion of

the screen as defined by the particular application
generating the logical portion . . .

Specification, pages 8-9 (emphasis added).

In sum, a UNIX server or Window-based server, for example, residing at the controlled computer may provide the platform to carry out the aforementioned control logic. *See, id.*, page 8. A logical block is identified via the controlled computer, such as via successive screen captures. The “data indicative of the portion [or logical block] of the image . . . is transmitted from the controlled computer system to the controlling computer system” for display at the controlling computer. *See id.*, page 10. “In a simple example, the data transmitted . . . may simply include coordinates, limits, or similar boundaries of a portion of the screen to be logically grouped.” *See, id.*, page 10. In view of the ample support for the claims found throughout the application, Applicants believe that claim 1 to be definite and in condition for allowance.

All Claims

In addition, the Examiner in rejecting all of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, commented that all claims generally recite storing data representative of the screen display in memory at the controlling computer. *See*, Office Action, page 3. The Examiner stated that it “is unclear what type of memory storage is being utilized to perform this function,” noting that “information which is displayed is inherently stored in memory, for example, in video random access memory.” *See, id.* (explaining that “in fact, a specific section of memory defines what is currently displayed on an output device.”). The Examiner then commented that a variety of different memories are “suitable for storage of arbitrary data, including data to be displayed,” and concluded that “the arbitrary specification of ‘memory’ without any indication of how the storage is to be performed or effects of the storage on the system as a whole renders these claims indefinite.” *See, id.*

However, the Examiner has apparently equated breadth with indefiniteness. *See, In re Miller*, 441 F.2d 689, 169 U.S.P.Q. 597 (CCPA 1971). Indeed, Applicants believe that most or all memory is suitable with the present technique. *See, e.g.*, Specification, pages 6-7. However, Applicants would consider clarifying amendments suggested by the Examiner. In addition, Applicants would consider amendments of the claims to return to the related language previously employed in the claims prior to the amendment submitted in the previous response. *See*, Request For Continued Examination (RCE) and Amendment and Response To Final Office Action Mailed July 13, 2005.

Claims 18, 20, and 24

While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejections under Section 112 of dependent claims 18, 20, and 24, Applicants thank the Examiner for suggesting the need to clarify the claims. Further, Applicants have amended these claims, and therefore, the corresponding rejections are believed to be moot.

Request Withdrawal of Rejections

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under Section 112, Second Paragraph.

Provisional Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1-8, 11-26, and 29-37 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 16-42 of copending Application No. 09/682,238. While Applicants will consider filing a terminal disclaimer when the present claims are allowed, Applicants note that upon resolution of the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, this provisional double patenting rejection will be the only rejection remaining in the present case. Therefore, upon resolution of the rejections above, the present provisional double patenting rejection should be withdrawn

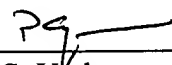
because the present application is the earlier application and should be permitted to issue as a patent without the filing of a terminal disclaimer. *See*, M.P.E.P § 804.I.B.

Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims should be in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner believes certain amendments are necessary to clarify the present claims or if the Examiner wishes to resolve any other issues by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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